Message Text

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O R 202208Z MAY 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: DAMASCUS WATER SUPPLY

REF: DAMASCUS 1832 NEW DELHI FOR KINGERY ISLAMABAD FOR CASSANOS

SUMMARY: ON BASIS COMPREHENSIVE REPORT IN REFTEL, WE ARE PLANNING TO PROCEED WITH PREPARATION OF LOAN FOR DOLS 48 MILLION FOR DAMASCUS WATER SUPPLY AND WITH DOLS 10 MILLION INCREASE IN LOAN 007. MESSAGE OUTLINES NEXT STEPS. ACTION REQUESTED: IMMEDIATE CABLE DISCUSSED IN PARAGRAPH 2, BELOW.

1. SUBJECT TO RECEIVING (A) SECRETARY'S APPROVAL OF ALLOCATION UNCOMMITTED BALANCE SPECIAL MIDDLE EAST REQUIRE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MENT FUND WHICH WE HOPE TO GET BY MAY 21, AND (B) ADVICE

FROM MISSION OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 2, BELOW, WE WILL INITIATE CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION, IF POSSIBLE BY COB MAY 21. THAT NOTIFICATION WILL INCLUDE DOLS 48 MILLION LOAN FOR DAMASCUS WATER SUPPLY AND DOLS 10 MILLION ADDITION TO AGRICULTURAL INPUTS LOAN NO. 007.

- 2. BEFORE DISPATCHING NOTIFICATION, WE NEED EMBASSY'S CONFIRMATION THAT SARG HAS REQUESTED OR WILL REQUEST BOTH LOANS AND IS AWARE THAT AGREEMENTS MUST BE SIGNED BY JUNE 30. SARG SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT LOAN AGREEMENT WILL PROVIDE FOR SARG'S UNDERTAKING TO FINANCE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TOTAL PROJECT COST AND PROPOSED A.I.D. LOAN FOR DOLS 48 MILLION. BEFORE AUTHORIZING THESE LOANS, WRITTEN REQUEST MUST HAVE BEEN RECEIVED; BUT FOR NOTIFICATION PURPOSES YOUR ADVICE THAT PROPOSED LOAN AMOUNTS AND FORE-GOING POINTS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH RESPONSIBLE SARG OFFICIALS AND THAT FORMAL WRITTEN REQUEST WILL FOLLOW IS SUFFICIENT. IN VIEW 30-DAY NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT AND NECESSITY TO SIGN LOAN AGREEMENT BY JUNE 30, HOPE YOU CAN DISPATCH IMMEDIATE CABLE ADVISING US OF SARG POSITION TOMORROW, MAY 21.
- 3. LOAN OFFICER ROBERT SLUSSER (NESA/CD) AND ENGINEER JOHN NEAVE (SER/ENG) PREPARING TO ARRIVE DAMASCUS BY MONDAY, MAY 26. HOPE WORK IN DAMASCUS CAN BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 2 OR 3 SO THAT PROJECT PAPER FOR WATER SUPPLY PROJECT CAN BE COMPLETED IN WASHINGTON BY JUNE 10 AND PROCESSED FOR LOAN AUTHORIZATION BY ADMINISTRATOR BY JUNE 20. WILL CABLE ETA OF TEAM.
- 4. TEAM WILL BRING TO DAMASCUS FIRST DRAFT LOAN AGREE-MENT OF WATER SUPPLY PROJECT FOR REVIEW BY SARG. AT THIS STAGE, AGREEMENT WILL OF COURSE BE INCOMPLETE SINCE PROJECT DESCRIPTION, CONDITIONS PRECEDENT AND SPECIAL COVENANT SECTIONS CAN ONLY BE DRAFTED AFTER PROJECT PAPER APPROVED. STANDARD CLAUSES SHOULD HOWEVER BE REVIEWED BY SARG PROMPTLY TO FACILITATE FINAL NEGOTIATIONS AND PERMIT SIGNATURE BY JUNE 30.

DECONTROL FOLLOWING MAY 20, 1976. INGERSOLL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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To: DAMASCUS

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